

## **Fitzwilliam Conservation Commission**

21 Sept 2015– Minutes, draft

### **Present:**

Members: Rick Brackett, Dorothy Zug, Barbara Green, Paul Kotila, chair

**Absent:** Cheryl Norskey, Hiel Lindquist

(The Committee met following the Prime Wetland public presentation by Dr. Rick Van de Poll)

### **Review Minutes of 17 Aug 2015:**

Approved as amended. ALL IN FAVOR

### **Agenda Review:**

The Committee conveyed its Thanks to Rick Brackett for writing the Prime Wetlands announcements for the town newsletter.

### **Discussion of Metzger TF Stewardship Plan:**

Kotila reported working on the items outlined by Con Comm members regarding the plan. He will contact Mike Powers.

### **Prime Wetlands Project Status:**

Brackett and Kotila reported conversations with Susan Silverman and others regarding a town survey of vernal pools. Brett Thelen, the Harris Center and the Monadnock Conservancy are exploring a volunteer-based survey of vernal pools on conservation easement lands in town next spring. No plans are yet in place.

### **Gas Pipeline Update:**

A FERC scoping hearing is scheduled for Franklin Pierce-Rindge campus on 28 Sept. Kotila plans to present. Kotila reported that the PUC staff have apparently recommended the NED project as the best pipeline option for the state.

The Con Comm received a letter from Kendall Morgan (mistakenly addressed to Zug as Con Comm Chair)

### **Open Space Committee – Updates:**

The OSC met on 16 Sept. and is in the midst of preparing its last mailing to landowners in the priority conservation areas of town. Zug is preparing a newsletter insert on conservation easements for land owners.

Zug reported conversations with a land owner near Rockwood Pond regarding land conservation options.

Brackett reported on conversations at the Monadnock Conservancy regarding possible conservation of farm land on Crane Rd. The Conservancy continues to work with Mr. Chamberlin regarding conservation of property near Sipp Pond.

Zug asked about the status of the boundary issue on the Metzger Town Forest. Kotila will check with the town office.

**Site Walk Reports:**

None.

**Budget Reports:**

2016 budget proposals are due 13 Oct. Green will prepare a draft for distribution to Con Comm members. The budget hearing is scheduled for 3 Dec. It was agreed unanimously to request \$5000 of CIP funding for the conservation fund. Payment of \$296 for our NH Assoc Conservation Commissions membership was approved unanimously.

**Planning Board:**

Zug indicated Sandra Gillis will forward Planning Board minutes to the Commission

**Other Business:**

None

**Correspondence:**

Kendall Morgan letter. Minimum Impact Forestry permit for Mr. Lion (Map 14, lot 32-1). NHACC renewal and announcement letter.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Next meeting: Oct 19th.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul M. Kotila, Chair